STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS18730

This proposal creates a new chapter to title 41, Idaho Code, to be known as The Idaho Health Carrier External Review Act. The Act will provide persons covered by health insurance plans a right to an outside independent review of a health carrier's decision to deny an insured's claim on the grounds the service is not medically necessary or is investigational. The new chapter defines key terms, sets forth procedures and timelines governing the external review process, including procedures for expedited review in urgent care cases, and sets forth standards for qualifying independent review organizations. When a request for external review is received, the Department of Insurance will randomly assign an independent review organization from a list of qualified review organizations. The cost of the external review will be borne by the health plan and a decision by an independent review organization will be binding on both the health plan and the covered person, unless the covered person has a right to further review under federal law.

FISCAL NOTE

No fiscal impact.

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